

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MAX REED

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Iowan Max Reed of Bellevue for being selected as a Star of Life by the Iowa Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Association.

Ahead of National EMS Week in May, the American Ambulance Association has recently recognized our nation's best emergency responders, who embody the example of honorable and professional service in their communities. Stars of Life, like Max, are selected by their paramedic, emergency medical technician (EMT), and ambulance service personnel peers to represent them in Washington, D.C. as they meet with Members of Congress.

A founder of the Bellevue Ambulance Service in 1972, Max is the only "founding father" of the 46 volunteer member service still actively responding to the community's calls. Mr. Reed has completed every level of EMT in our great state and has truly seen it all. From consoling grieving friends and families of accident victims to comforting new parents as their babies are brought into this world, there is no doubt Max's work has led him to become one of his community's greatest advocates. A CPR instructor since 1973, Mr. Reed assists his community with CPR instruction and education, as well as several other events related to his work, including EMS Education Days and Operation Prom, just to name a couple. Max's selfless efforts have helped grow the Bellevue Ambulance Service's location from a small section in the local fire department to a new independent building that he helped design. Of course, Max would say he could have never attained this level of success if not for the love and support of his wife, Mary.

Mr. Speaker, for over 41 years Mr. Reed has unselfishly given his time and talents to ensure his community is well cared for. Max's co-workers count him as a mentor, an advisor and a great friend, and I find it no surprise they have entrusted him with the distinction of representing them and their shared passion this week in Washington, D.C. as a Star of Life. Max's leadership is a testament to the hard working people of Iowa, and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating him on a remarkable career, thanking him for his decades of service, and wishing him continued success in the years ahead.

IN MEMORIAM OF RITA VOGLER

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of one of my constituents,

Rita Vogler, who passed away last week from lung cancer. A valued member of the Hesperia, California community, Rita formerly served as mayor and a city councilwoman. She also furthered the interests of the City of Hesperia as an active member of the Hesperia Kiwanis Club and the National Federation of Republican Women.

Rita is just one of 1,660,290 people expected to be diagnosed with cancer this year, according to the American Cancer Society's statistics. Approximately 580,350 Americans will die of cancer this year, or 1,600 people per day. In my home state of California alone, 57,290 people are expected to die from cancer in 2013.

I hope Rita's death will remind my colleagues of the importance of our continued pursuit of a cure for this terrible disease. At the signing of the National Cancer Act of 1971, President Nixon declared war on cancer. In that year, 215,000 Americans died from cancer. Yet the number of deaths each year has more than doubled to reach the 2013 prediction, and even when adjusted for population inflation, incidence and death rates have not shown the evidence of the nation's efforts to eradicate the disease. More Americans continue to die, leaving family and friends behind to mourn their losses. In Rita's case, her death came barely two weeks after her diagnosis with lung cancer. However, I am encouraged by the progress made by researchers every year and hope that we continue to see strides forward.

Rita's friends describe her as kind and sincere, a mentor and inspiration to many, devoted to serving her community. She is survived by her husband Al and children Rocky and Allise.

NATIONAL EYE DONOR MONTH

HON. ALAN NUNNELEE

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, over 1,000,000 people have had their sight restored since the Eye Bank Association of America was created in 1961. Since 1983, each March has been designated as National Eye Donor Month. As a recipient of two corneal transplants, I am honored to participate this year.

In high school I was diagnosed with keratoconus, a degenerative disease of the cornea. From then and through much of my college life, I lived with the belief that I would one day lose my eyesight. As a junior in college, I was told I was potentially a good candidate for cornea replacement surgery. On April 25, 1980, I had my first surgery and the results were almost instantaneous. Two years later, I had another, equally successful transplant procedure on my other eye. I live every day with the knowledge that not only was my vision saved, it took tremendous strength and compassion on the part of two families to make it possible.

With corneas, the doctors are not concerned with matching by blood type, but they need to match by age. The reason is simple: the cornea does not need to wear out before the recipient does. So two families who lost a son, daughter, husband, or wife in their teens-to-mid-twenties made a decision under the worst of circumstances, and donated their loved ones corneas so that a stranger might see.

I encourage all Americans to register to become eye donors and inform your families of your wishes.

I urge my colleagues to work with their local eye banks and the EBAA to promote eye donation and its life enhancing effects on corneal recipients.

During this month, let us remember the donors and their families who have forever changed so many lives, including my own, for the better.

ANASTASIA LAWRENCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anastasia Lawrence for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Anastasia Lawrence is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anastasia Lawrence is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anastasia Lawrence for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

9TH GRADER SOPHIE BOUCHER OF NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you and all of my colleagues a letter I recently received from Sophie Boucher, a ninth grade student at Naugatuck High School in the Borough of Naugatuck, Connecticut. She writes:

"I think everyone in this state, country, continent, and world can agree that the events that unfolded in Newtown were tragic. Our hearts go out to the kids and teachers who lost their lives in Sandy Hook and also

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